

the quotation and you will understand the problems we now face in relation to currents of thought that began many, many years ago in the last century.

To turn for a few moments to Sister Mary Neri and Sister Mary Montfort, who as you know are happily ensconced in the Diocese of Rockford, Illinois. Soon, Opus Mariae Mediatrix will have to purchase the house which we are now renting for them. The house sits on a triple lot which will allow for future expansion. Speaking of which, they hope soon, to receive 2 postulants. This new little community is off to a good, humble, solid start. Your prayers and financial help will assist them in the steady growth they are already experiencing. The sisters have made plans to attend the annual meeting of the Institute on Religious Life, scheduled for April 20-22, at the University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois.

There are many developments regarding the classical Roman Liturgy. First among these is the appointment by Pope John Paul II, of four new members to the *Pontifical Commission Ecclesia Dei*, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, Prefect of the *Congregation for the Doctrine on the Faith*, Jorge Arturo Cardinal Medina Estévez, Prefect of the *Congregation for the Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments*, Louis-Marie Cardinal Billé, Archbishop of Lyon, and Archbishop Julián Herranz, Titular Archbishop of Vertara, President of the *Pontifical Commission for the Interpretation of Legislative Texts*. This brings the total membership of the Commission to seven (over doubling its size) with four cardinals and one archbishop. Please note of interest elsewhere in this issue: the interview with Cardinal Medina Estevez, Prefect of the *Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments* (just recently appointed to the *Ecclesia Dei* Commission). Also of interest is an article by Peter Kwasnieski, in the latest edition of the Vancouver Traditional Mass Society newsletter. Oh, I should mention, at least in passing, the remarkable interview with Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger in the January 2001 edition of *Inside the Vatican*.

You are all remembered in my First Saturday of the month Mass.

In the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,



Fr. William F. Ashley

From *The Catholic Choirmaster*

If I were Samson I should pull down all church pillars. Every churchgoer should own the text of the liturgical functions in the vernacular and we ought to wrest from the church choirs the singing they wrested from the people. Our Mass servers ought to be grown up men and the altar should be so placed that the priest be turned toward the congregation. So long have we turned our backs on the people that the people are turning their backs on us.

— Fr. Beukering, Rotterdam, address given to the International Liturgical Congress, 1930